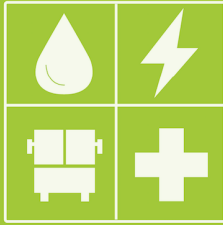


Principle 20: Access to Essential Services

Access to Essential Services



1 What are the demands of Social Platform & its Members?

Provide for strong and targeted EU action to promote the availability, accessibility, affordability and quality of essential services throughout the EU;

Guarantee non-discriminatory access to essential services, particularly for people in disadvantaged and vulnerable situations and those living in remote areas;

Collect data on the availability, accessibility, affordability and quality of essential services;

Better recognise social services as essential services.



“ Everyone has the right to access essential services of good quality, including water, sanitation, energy, transport, financial services and digital communications... ”

2 Why do we make these demands?

Essential services are a prerequisite for people's full participation and inclusion in society and in the labour market;

For example: rising energy poverty is affecting more than 50 million people;

Groups in disadvantaged and vulnerable situations face multiple barriers to access essential services.

3 How should they be implemented at EU level?

Strengthen the social dimension of the European Semester to ensure universal access to accessible, affordable and quality services;

Social priorities with regards to essential services must be mainstreamed in relevant current and upcoming initiatives and be measured and monitored at the European level.

Read more about principle 20 in our [full paper](#).



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